

Stories of French Taking to Baseball Known by Capt. Mathewson on Return From Overseas

MATTY BACK SPOILS BEAUTIFUL DREAM

World's Series Between Giants and Paris Green Sox All Off, He Says.

FRENCH NO BALL PLAYERS

Are Poor Infielders, Worse Batters, Will Not Go Behind Bat!

By FREDERICK G. LIEB.

Those pretty dreams of a world's series in 1925 between the Giants and the Paris Green Sox went up into thin air yesterday. Capt. Christy Mathewson, a while "Big Six" of the pitching staff at the Polo Grounds, returned from France on the steamer *La France* and told the stories of the Gallic adoption of baseball.

"The French never take up baseball," he said. "They are not a hot nation, and they would not go to the trouble of learning to play a game that is not a Frenchman's game. I am convinced of that. They say it is 'big' and call it brutal."

"Big" is the name of the baseball in France, and the baseball players are called "les grands." Major Percy Haughton, former president of the British Major League, and president of the French National League, and Capt. Tyrus Cobb of the Tigers, Major entered the service in the latter part of the 1915 season and spent most of his time in France, training at Chaumont. He was just about to reach the front lines in the Toul sector when the armistice was signed. Capt. Haughton proceeded to Washington after landing here.

French afraid to catch. "I don't know what I will do with my education," laughed the former leader of the Giants. "Perhaps I can start a gas school for umpires and teach them how to gas players when they try to catch their toes."

Returning to the efforts of the French to play ball, Mathewson said some points to try to play the game under American conditions, but made little progress. They are terrible in their infield work," said Matty. "as the grounders hop by them and they know it. They have a great many players who are not good, but have to put them on the bases in order to give them a chance to run. They can't be caught."

Mathewson chuckled. "But the catcher is what they are most afraid of. There is something terrible to them about the man who puts a mask on and they are afraid of him. They are afraid of the catcher in all France. Whenever you could get a fellow who was game enough to put a mask on, they would be in a state of confusion. They are a little bit of a coward, but they are a little bit of a coward."

Mathewson had little to say about the future, and declared that he would have to get his bearings before he could say anything. He said that he had succeeded him as manager of the Cincinnati team. Asked if he were true that he would come to the United States to coach, he said that he was a free agent, and had received offers from all clubs.

"However, I always have considered New York my home," he said. "I have been in New York practically my entire life, and it is home to me."

Mathewson was told that the National League had had a meeting in New York, and that the league had decided to have a world's series between the Cincinnati team and the Paris Green Sox. Mathewson said that he was not interested in the matter, and that he was not going to play for the Paris Green Sox.

Mathewson's experiences in France were not as dramatic as he had been led to believe. He said that he had been in France for a long time, and that he had seen a lot of things. He said that he had been in France for a long time, and that he had seen a lot of things.

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ANOTHER BOXING BILL IN LEGISLATURE

It Calls for 12 Round No Decision Bout.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.

ALBANY, Feb. 17.—A second proposal to bring back legalized boxing in New York State was introduced to-night by Assemblyman John G. Malone of Albany. His bill would provide for twelve round no decision bouts, and they could be held in any building properly ventilated, provided no liquor is sold on the premises.

The other bill, which was introduced by Senator Gibble of Buffalo, provides for a decision by the referee, and would permit bouts only in places especially provided for boxing. It was introduced by Senator Gibble of Buffalo.

The Malone bill provides for a bi-partisan boxing commission of two members at \$5,000 a year each, a deputy at \$4,000 and a secretary at \$1,500. The Gibble bill provides for a single commissioner at \$5,000.

'BLACK WATCH' SEES SOME TELY BOUTS

Heroes Forget Their Chicken While Boxers Are in Ring of 71st Regiment.

Three thousand happy fighters of the 71st Regiment, after a parade that was a continual ovation, marched into the city's first Regiment Army yesterday afternoon and enjoyed a feast of chicken, vaudeville and boxing. More than 5,000 persons who did not belong to the 71st Regiment, and who were not in the city, were also present.

The crowd was drawn by the event itself, and the excitement of the night. The 71st Regiment, which was in the city for a short time, was in the city for a short time, and was in the city for a short time.

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FAVORITES WIN AT PHILADELPHIA NETS

Alexander and Tilden Victors in Middle States Covered Court Tourney.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 17.—Favorites came through in every match in the opening of the first annual middle States covered court tennis championship tournament, held on the roof of the Wanamaker building here to-day. The court was twelve stories above the street level, and wintry blasts of wind swept across the house tops and chilled spectators to the bone, yet some 200 of them dared the "fury" and thrilled to get a sight of the court giants in action.

The furors began their tourney on Saturday, and to-day was given over almost exclusively to the seniors. Among those who finished with colors flying were Frederick B. Alexander, former national doubles champion and Davis cup player, and Vincent Richards, runner-up for the national championship and holder of the clay court title, and Vincent Richards, the sixteen-year-old Yonkers boy, who holds the national doubles title with Tilden.

Lieut. S. Howard Vossell, late of the aviation service and national indoor champion, and Walter F. Johnson, a great chop stroke exponent, were also in the tournament. The Davis cup player, who was in the tournament, was in the tournament, and was in the tournament.

Tilden won out against Rodney M. Beck, Philadelphia's brilliant junior champion, in the first set by his careful play. The clay court champion landed on his playing until Beck was forced to retire on account of gas. He won the first set by his careful play, and he won the first set by his careful play.

Johnson won out against Alexander in the first set by his careful play. The clay court champion landed on his playing until Beck was forced to retire on account of gas. He won the first set by his careful play, and he won the first set by his careful play.

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HIGH LIGHTS AND SHADOWS IN ALL SPHERES OF SPORT

By DANIEL.

THE endeavor to revive legalized boxing in this State is suffering from too much attention. In spite of the fact that Senator Gibble, like himself a Republican, already had introduced a perfectly satisfactory bill calling for ten round bouts to a decision, Assemblyman Malone yesterday offered a rival measure which would permit twelve rounds without decisions. Senator Gibble's bill calls for a one man commission, boxing only in buildings or outdoor arenas given over entirely to athletic and boxing purposes, and other safeguards which meet with the hearty approval of all those who put the real interests of the game above all other considerations. The Malone bill, in addition to providing for the return of the highly unsatisfactory no decision conditions of the Fawley law, would place the conduct of the sport into the hands of two commissioners, one a deputy commissioner. Since the Malone measure provides for annual salaries totaling \$17,000 it may find great favor with the men at Albany who have an eye mainly for political patronage. The Malone bill also would permit boxing in any building just as long as no liquor was sold on the premises—rather an unnecessary safeguard, we believe.

Mr. Malone offers the bill with the statement that he is a firm friend of boxing. It will be remembered that he offered the amendment which prolonged the life of the Fawley law. That was a real service to boxing. But when the time came for friends of boxing to rally against the drive organized by Mr. Whitman for the repeal of the boxing bill Mr. Malone, if we mistake not, stepped from under and voted with the machine forces for the repeal. That, of course, was a personal matter for Mr. Malone. He was the judge of. Perhaps Mr. Whitman was justified in insisting on the outlawing of boxing in this State.

Malone Bill Puts Right into the Hands of Vicious Promoters. The more we compare the main provisions of the Gibble bill with those of the Malone bill, the more we are impressed with the desirability of having Mr. Malone withdraw his measure and substitute a companion bill to the Gibble proposition. Mr. Malone offers just such a bill as the boxing promoters who were responsible for the sad conditions under the Fawley law would like to have the Legislature pass. The promoters of the wrong kind of boxing, the kind that is being fought in the alley holes in the wall, fire traps and converted swill barrels. They want divided responsibility in the matter of conducting the sport, and they want it run in a way that will make it attractive for the politicians—plenty of officials, plenty of salaries, plenty of graft. Mr. Malone may not be aware that his bill would lead to the revival of every evil of the Fawley law days. The only difference would be twelve round bouts instead of ten round bouts—a change of no great significance.

Those who love boxing want the sport back for the sake of the sport, and not for the financial benefit of any set of promoters, managers or owners of halls suitable for boxing clubs of the old style. These men find the Gibble bill absolutely right. They want it passed. They feel that the Malone bill is not of the proper cast. They want to see no rival bill before the Legislature. They want to see the Gibble bill passed. They want to see the Gibble bill passed. They want to see the Gibble bill passed.

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SUN SMOKE FUND COLT IS FIRST HOME

Ira Wilson Wins for Brooklyn Butcher at New Orleans Track.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 17.—Ira Wilson, the little bay colt, which John E. Madden presented to THE SUN'S Tobacco Fund last year, ran like a high class two-year-old at the Fair Grounds track this afternoon. He defeated a good field of juveniles over the three and a half furlong route in impressive fashion. Pecan finished second and Orme Dry was third.

When the colt, which is by Ormeville and Blue Stocking, was offered for sale in the paddock at Saratoga last August, there was some lively bidding for him. He wasn't a good looking fellow and gave little promise of winning races, but he was doing his "bit" for the American boys, who the treatment and many horsemen bid on him in order to help THE SUN'S fund. He was finally knocked down to Paul Fox, the veteran trainer, who was acting for Max Kornblum, a Brooklyn butcher. When he was led out of the sales ring Paul was heaped with congratulations.

"I'm patriotic, all right," said Paul. "But this here colt will win some races. He's small as a watch box now, but wait 'til I fatten him up."

All summer and autumn Fox kept him at the feed box with the result that when he reached here he looked like an entirely different horse. And in his trials he showed good flashes of speed. "Ira will win some races here," Fox telegraphed Mr. Kornblum a few weeks ago. "You had better come down."

The butcher turned over his business to his cousin and started for him. There he awaited a good track. None came and Kornblum was finally persuaded to start the colt anyway. Last week Ira ran but he was not a success. To-day he sped over the course like an old campaigner and came prancing home at the good odds of 12 to 1. Owner, trainer, and friends of their friends had a wager on him.